

Coffee in Philippines-- Grows in All Islands

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JOLO, Island of Sulu, June 4, 1900.—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—The United States uses as much coffee as all the rest of the world put together. We import more than \$50,000,000 worth every year, and annually consume more than eleven pounds to every man, woman and child in our country. We are increasing our consumption every year, and the Brazilians and other coffee producing peoples of the world are fattening themselves on our appetite. There is a bare probability, however, that the days of their fatness will cease. I saw excellent coffee grown in all parts of Porto Rico and Cuba, and there are evidences here which lead to the belief that the Philippines might supply a great share of the world's product. I saw an experimental plantation today which surpasses in its luxuriant growth any coffee plantation of Brazil. I found excellent coffee trees about Zamboanga and in other parts of

is said to resist it, and this is the character of the coffee here at Jolo. I met a coffee planter in Honolulu who told me they had recently discovered an antidote for the blight. I think it was of a parasitical nature, a little worm or bug, which attacks the parasite which causes the blight and kills it, and which multiplies so rapidly that it will, in a short time, drive out the blight parasite and free the plantation of them. The new parasite does not injure the tree. Experiments with it are now being made in the Hawaiian Islands, and it is said, successfully. On the ship which brought me to Manila from Hong Kong was a man from Hawaii who expects to invest in coffee lands here, because he can buy them at a low price on account of the blight, and by introducing this parasite can redeem them.

They Paid Twenty-Five Per Cent.

In the past coffee raising has paid very well, the planters and shippers making about



MORO GIRL SLAVES HULLING COFFEE.

Mindanao, and there are scattering plants as far north as the upper end of Luzon.

The Philippines lie in one of the great coffee belts of the world. Those who have paid most attention to the cultivation of this crop have decided that the best coffee grows within fifteen degrees of the equator, although in some places an excellent article is produced as far from it as twenty-five or thirty degrees. In America, for instance, we find good coffee all the way from Mexico to Paraguay and southern Brazil. The bulk of the Brazilian product is grown in Santos and Rio Janeiro, fully as far from the equator as northern Luzon, and the plants thrive best at an altitude of from 1,000 to 4,000 feet above the sea. In Java, just below here, and between this and the equator, some of the best coffee known in the world is found, so that the whole of the Philippines may be said to be in the coffee producing zone.

Lands Adapted to Coffee.

The lands here are of a nature adapted to the product. They are rolling and mountainous, so that almost any desired altitude can be secured. The plantation which I visited here in Sulu is only 100 feet above sea level, but there is no doubt that the berries will ripen in this climate as high as 5,000 feet. The fact that the mountainous regions are the best places for coffee culture is a very important one to the United States, for as yet little more than the lowlands of the Philippine islands have been taken up by the people, and almost all of the mountain lands belong to our government.

It is in this part of the world that the coffee industry as one of the great world products was born. We usually think of coffee as originating in Arabia, but the Arabian trees came from Abyssinia, and their product was so small that coffee was not generally used until the plantations of Java were started. This was just about 210 years ago. At that time an old governor general of the Dutch East Indies got some Arabian coffee seeds from a sailor and planted them in his garden in Batavia. They sprouted, and within four years were each producing from two to three pounds per year. From their seeds other trees were set out, and Java became the coffee country of the world. From its plantations seeds were taken to the West Indies, Mexico, Venezuela and Brazil, so that Java is really the mother of the great coffee industry of today. Since then the child has so far outstripped its parent that today Java produces only about one-eighteenth of the coffee consumed by man. Her annual product is not now much more than 100,000,000 pounds, whereas last year the world's production amounted to about 2,000,000,000 pounds.

The Coffee Blight.

The Java coffee trees have been seriously affected during recent years by the blight, so that today there are not more than half as many plantations as there were some years ago. The blight has also afflicted the Hawaiian Islands, and it has practically ruined the coffee industry of the northern Philippines. In 1883 15,000,000 pounds of coffee were shipped away from Manila, and now the shipments do not exceed 200,000 pounds.

Java is trying to avoid the blight by planting a species of Liberian coffee which

25 per cent out of their investments. Good coffee lands with the trees in bearing were until lately worth about \$30 gold per acre. At present their value is only nominal and some of the planters have been pulling up the coffee trees and putting in sugar cane.

Up to the time of the appearance of the blight the most of the coffee was grown in the provinces below and about Manila. The best came from Batangas, quite a lot was raised about Laguna de Bay, and also in Cavite. Many of the plantations were large, containing numerous trees. The trees were shaded. They were set out so closely that 1,728 trees were grown on one acre, and it may have been this close planting that caused the low yield per tree. The amount produced averaged not more than ten ounces each, or 1,000 pounds to the acre. This at 12 cents a pound, a low rate in the past for this variety of coffee, gave an income of \$120 per acre per year. In Brazil many of the trees yield two and three pounds each.

The harvesting of the crop in Luzon was usually done on shares, women and children picking the berries and hulling the seeds for half the profits. Practically no modern machinery has been used. Much of the pulp has been allowed to dry on the berries and then pounded off with mortar and pestle. After this the chaff was removed by winnowing the seeds in the wind. Some of the planters hired their work done, but nearly all were more or less in debt, so that there has not yet been a practical test of coffee raising in this part of the world with modern machinery and plenty of capital.

How They Raise Coffee in Sulu.

The coffee conditions in the Sulu Islands are far different, however, from those of Luzon. Here there is only one plantation, but it covers seventy acres, and it now has 35,000 trees. It is owned by two Germans, who have married Moros. They have a large tract of land and are testing coffee raising as an experiment. Their trees are now only three years old and they are so loaded with berries that the limbs are breaking down with the weight. They will get one pound per tree this year, and they tell me that they have been already offered 28 cents silver or 14 cents gold per pound for their crop. Within two years from now they think the trees will be producing at least three and a half pounds each, and it looks as though they had a fortune in sight.

I spent some time in going over the plantation. It lies about three miles back of Jolo on the foot hills of the mountains, and is reached by a bridle path through the fields. The lands surrounding it are like a natural park, filled with tall forest trees and overgrown with a tall growth of luxuriant grass. The grass in many places was taller than my head as I sat on my pony. The earth of the path where the grass was worn off was as black as that of the valley of the Nile, until we came to the plantation itself, where it assumed the reddish tinge so common to good coffee lands. Nearer the plantation the scene grew wilder. We crossed several streams and wound our way in and out through the jungle, until at last, mounting a low hill, the whole seventy acres of coffee bushes rising and falling with the land in wide graceful lines of burnished green lay before us.

I cannot describe the luxuriance of the growth and the healthy look of the trees. They were as big around as a man's wrist

CURE VARICOCELE WITHOUT DELAY

DO NOT WASTE TIME WITH TREATMENTS WHOSE SOLE RECOMMENDATION IS CHEAPNESS.



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The sufferer from varicocele can make no greater mistake than to give up hope of being cured and to permit the disease to continue its ravages unmolested.

It is natural that a man who has wasted time and money in futile efforts to find a cure should become discouraged. Such a person should honestly question himself as to whether he did not allow his mind to be influenced in experimenting with certain treatments, such as tonics, suspensories, electric belts, lotions, etc., simply because they were cheap.

Price is a poor recommendation of any treatment. The question that should be asked is: "Does it effect speedy and lasting cures?"

The Richardson Method for the cure of Varicocele and associated Pelvic and Nerve-Vital diseases should not be judged by the results of any other treatment. It stands alone, and its merits are established by over 10,000 cures of Varicocele alone, without a single failure.

Varicocele Hastens Old Age.

It is well understood by the victim of Varicocele that the disease saps away the vitality, undermines the nervous system and brings on premature old age.

Nervous Debility and Vital Weakness in men almost invariably arise from neglected Varicocele.

The knotted and feverish mass of veins surrounding the glands produce unnatural conditions that interfere with important functions.

The stagnated blood of Varicocele also undergoes deteriorating changes and becomes a menace to the general health. The minute clots formed in the retarded blood current are absorbed into nerve matter, causing Paralytic manifestations.

It is safe to say that one man in every ten wears a suspensory or resorts to some other makeshift in an effort to rid himself of the constant annoyance of Varicocele.

Such men entirely underestimate the gravity of Varicocele if they expect such measures to result in a cure.



A suspensory exerts undue pressure on diseased and heated veins and in many instances does positive harm.

The Richardson Method is a radical departure from all other forms of treatment for pelvic ailments, being a scientific combination of natural forces applied by spe-

cial mechanisms made under my directions, and only to be found at the Richardson Sanitarium.

I cure any case of Varicocele, I care not of how long standing, nor whether it be single or double, in from five to seven days.

When Varicocele has existed for a long time, and has brought on nervous disorders, I do not attempt to cure the nervous condition until after the Varicocele has been cured.

Any man who is honestly desirous of investigating for himself will be afforded every possible opportunity if he will call at my office. I will take pleasure in having him shown through my entire institution, allowing him to interview my patients, and will give him the names of reliable business and professional men who will testify to the lasting nature of my cures.

The Richardson Method, in its different modifications, cures to stay cured not only Varicocele, but Rupture, Stricture, Hydrocele and all Prostatic affections.

I will send my book to those who describe their case in detail and make no charge for a professional opinion, either in person or by letter.

If the books are to be sent sealed, enclose ten cents for postage.

Consultation Hours: Daily, 10 to 4; Evening, 7 to 8; Sundays, 10 to 1.

D. D. RICHARDSON, M. D.,

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at the ground, with branches coming out on all sides, loaded with green and red berries and blossoms. The berries were in all stages of growth, some as big as the end of your little finger and others the size and color of a large red cherry.

Unlike the coffee of the northern part of the Philippines, the berries here ripen all the year round, so that you see blossoms and berries on the same stem at the same time. The blossoms are white, much like the jasmine flower, emitting a perfume which is almost sickening in its sweetness. Here and there among the coffee plants I could see the trunks of great trees which had been cut down in the clearing of the

Schuck, have Moro wives and a number of half-breed children. Their wives are the daughters of some of the Moro chiefs, and their relations with the people are so friendly that they have been of considerable assistance to the Americans in arranging our peaceful occupation of the islands. During our visit to the sultan Charles Schuck was the interpreter, and his sister, Mrs. Feyer, and his brother's wife, a Moro princess, accompanied the party.

The Schuck family have lived in Sulu for many years. Charles Schuck's father came here as a trader a quarter of a century ago and established such relations with the old sultan that he deeded him about 1,600 acres

mans. There was an understanding, I suppose, that Mr. Schuck was to give him a share of the profits. At any rate, the gift was accepted and Schuck wrote to Prince Bismarck, offering the land to him for a German colony. At that time Germany had not the greed for Asiatic possessions it now has. Bismarck explicitly said that Germany was not yet ready to enter upon a colonial policy, and that he could not accept the proposition. Mr. Schuck reported the result of his correspondence to the sultan, and his majesty in reply made a remark which Schuck did not like. It may be that it was an insulting reference to Prince Bismarck. At any rate, it made Schuck so angry that he took the deed granting him North Borneo, tore it in two and threw it as the feet of his majesty, telling him he could keep his old land and that neither the Germans nor himself wanted it.

The sultan, in order to appease him, gave him a deed to this land just outside of Jolo. He kept the Borneo property and a short time later rented it out to an English syndicate known as the North Borneo company for the annual payment of \$5,000. This sum the present sultan is still receiving from the company. The lands have been developed and quite a town has grown up about the harbor of Sandakan and several lines of steamers make it a regular port of call to bring goods and take away the crops.

Starting the Plantation.

During our chat Mr. Schuck told me how he happened to start his coffee plantation. He said: "My father had planted a few trees. They were not well cared for, but they grew very fast and are now twenty feet high, with trunks ranging in size from the thickness of your thigh to that of your waist. They are all in full bearing, but it is almost impossible to pick the coffee on account of the height. When my father died a few years ago my brothers and myself found that we had this land, but that it was in such a condition that it produced no income. We left the Sulu Islands for a time and went to Borneo, Singapore and elsewhere to earn enough to develop the property. In Borneo we became interested in coffee planting and, knowing what father had done with the old plantation, we thought that a new one could

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SWEEPING UP COFFEE GRAINS—CANAL DOCK, MANILA.

land and left to rot. There were but few signs of cultivation. The grass had evidently been chopped off with bolos. I was told that the ground was mowed every month, but that no hoeing or weeding had been done during the past year.

White Land Owners.

I went over the plantation with one of the owners, Mr. Charles Schuck, and later spent some time with him and his family. Both he and his brother, Mr. Edward

of the best land of the island, of which this coffee plantation is a part.

The story of how Mr. Schuck came to get the plantation was told me by his son. The old sultan owned practically the whole of North Borneo, comprising the harbor of Sandakan and the vast tract now leased to the North Borneo company. Being in a friendly mood one day, he made a deed of all this land to Mr. Schuck, telling him he could sell what he chose of it to the Ger-